

## Message Text

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15

ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 USIA-12 /028 W

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R 231725Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8165

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 3658

FOR: CU/ARA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, CS (MONTES DE OCA, LUIS BERNAL)

SUBJECT: FY-75 IV CANDIDATE LUIS BERNAL MONTES DE OCA.

REF: SMITH-SHELBY TELCON

THE POST HERewith SUBMITS PART I OF PROPOSAL FOR  
IV NOMINEE LUIS BERNAL MONTES DE OCA. PRESENT POSITION:  
DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR YOUTH, MINISTRY OF CULTURE,  
YOUTH AND SPORTS. FORMER PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF  
COSTA RICA STUDENT FEDERATION. FORMER MEMBER YOUTH  
COMMITTEE OF PARTIDO LIBERACION NACIONAL (PARTY IN  
POWER). AGE: EARLY THIRTIES. COSTA RICAN CITIZEN.  
HAS NOT TRAVELED TO U.S. NO PREVIOUS U.S. GOVERNMENT  
GRANT. ESCORT INTERPRETER DESIRED. CLEARED FOR VISA.  
REASON FOR NOMINATION: THE SECTION HEADED BY THE NOMINEE  
IN THE MIISTRY OF CULTURE -- A VERY IMPORTANT MINISTRY  
IN COSTA RICA -- WORKS CLOSELY WITH SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS  
AND OTHER NATIONAL YOUTH GROUPS AS WELL AS WITH  
PARTY YOUTH AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. SR. MONTES DE  
OCA, A NATURAL LEADER AND STILL YOUTHFUL HIMSELF, IS  
PROBABLY THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WHO IS CLOSEST TO  
THE YOUTH OF COSTA RICA, AND HE SHARES THE EMBASSY'S  
DESIRE TO PROMOTE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN YOUNG PEOPLE IN  
THE U.S. AND COSTA RICA THROUGH SPORTS, STUDY, AND THE  
SHARING OF THE OTHER MUTUAL INTERESTS. HE HAS OFFERED,  
FOR INSTANCE, TO PUT YOUNG NORTH AMERICAN VISITORS  
IN TOUCH WITH COSTA RICAN CONTEMPORARIES AND TO  
SPEAK WITH THEM INFORMALLY ABOUT COSTA RICA. POST  
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OBJECTIVES OF U.S. VISIT: WHILE THERE ARE MANY EXCELLENT

PRIVATE WORK, STUDY OR EXCHANGE PROGRAMS  
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, SUCH AS 4-H, AMERICAN  
FIELD SERVICE, THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS PROGRAM AND  
THE OREGON PARTNERS, MOST OF THESE ACTIVITIES REACH  
ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF RELATIVELY PRIVILEGED YOUNG  
PEOPLE, AND IN MARKED CONTRAST TO THE EMBASSIES OF OTHER GOV-  
ERNMENTS, INCLUDING IRON CURTAIN COUNTRIES,  
WE CAN AFFORD TO OFFER NO GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS TO  
COSTA RICAN STUDENTS. (HENCE THE EMBASSY'S INSISTENCE  
ON REQUESTS FOR SPORTS COACHES, WHICH HAVE SO FAR  
GONE UNANSWERED). THE PRIME OBJECTIVE OF LUIS BERNAL  
MONTES DE OCA'S VISIT TO THE U. S. WOULD BE TO MAKE  
CONTACT WITH YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS -- UNIVERSITY, HIGH  
SCHOOL, NATIONAL, LOCAL, POLITICAL, SPORTING AND CULTURAL --  
WITH AN EYE TO PROMOTING A BETTER EXCHANGE  
AT ALL LEVELS BETWEEN THE YOUTH OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES.  
ORIGINALLY THE POST HAD CONSIDERED NOMINATING A STUDENT  
LEADER TO ACCOMPANY MONTES DE OCA AND REQUESTING  
THE MINISTRY TO PAY FOR HIS TRAVEL, BUT THE MOST OBVIOUS  
CANDIDATE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY STUDENT  
FEDERATION, WILL NOT HOLD OFFICE BEYOND NEXT MONTH  
AND WE WOULD RATHER THE NOMINEE TRAVELED IN NOVEMBER  
THAN WAIT AND RUN THE RISK OF HAVING TO POSTPONE THE  
TRIP SEVERAL MONTHS INTO NEXT YEAR. ARRIVAL DATE:  
MID-NOVEMBER, FOR 30 DAYS' OBSERVATION AND CONSULTATION.  
LANE

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## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** FY-75 IV CANDIDATE LUIS BERNAL MONTES DE OCA.  
**TAGS:** OEXC, CS, (MONTES DE OCA, LUIS BERNAL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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